

## Message Text

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ACTION DLOS-06

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 IO-13 ISO-00 OIC-02 FEA-01 ACDA-07

AGR-05 AID-05 CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 CIEP-01

COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-07 EPA-01 ERDA-05 FMC-01

TRSE-00 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-05 NSF-01 OES-06 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 SAL-01 /123 W  
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R 271702Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY QUITO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 968

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY GUAYAQUIL

C O N F I D E N T I A L QUITO 5313

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: LOS, UN, EC

SUBJECT: ECUADOR TO MAINTAIN 200 MILE TERRITORIAL SEA POSITION

REF: A) QUITO 3509 B) QUITO 5294

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED:

1. AMBASSADOR LUIS VALENCIA RODRIGUEZ, HEAD OF THE GOE LOS DELEGATION, PRIOR TO DEPARTING FOR NEW YORK, DECLARED THAT "ECUADOR WILL CONTINUE TO MAINTAIN ITS POSITION CHARACTERIZED BY THE IRREDUCIBLE DEFENSE OF A 200 MILE TERRITORIAL SEA, THE THESIS THAT HAS BEEN THE FORCE THROUGH WHICH THE THIRD WORLD REVINDICATES ITS RIGHTS." HIS REMARKS WERE REPORTED IN QUITO AND GUAYAQUIL NEWSPAPERS OF JUNE 24.

2. VALENCIA RECOGNIZED THAT THE GREAT MAJORITY OF COUNTRIES PARTICIPATING IN THE LOS CONFERENCE FAVOR A 12 MILE TERRITORIAL  
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SEA AND AN 188 MILE ECONOMIC ZONE. HOWEVER, SAID VALENCIA, THE

EFFORTS OF ECUADOR AND OTHER MEMBERS OF THE TERRITORIAL GROUP HAVE RESULTED IN A CONSTANTLY GROWING CONSENSUS THAT COASTAL STATES SHOULD ENJOY SPECIFIC RIGHTS WITHIN 200 MILES, INCLUDING THOSE OF CONTROLLING ALL LIVING AND NON-LIVING RESOURCES, BOTH IN THE WATER AND BELOW IT.

3. VALENCIA SAID THAT THE GROUP OF 77 (OF WHICH ECUADOR IS A MEMBER) IS PUSHING FOR AN AGREEMENT GIVING COASTAL STATES RIGHTS TANTAMOUNT TO A 200 MILE TERRITORIAL SEA. HE ADMITTED, HOWEVER, THAT THE GROUP OF 77 IS ITSELF DIVIDED ON CERTAIN POINTS AND THAT IT WOULD BE NECESSARY TO IMPROVE THE GROUP'S COHESION.

4. VALENCIA ENDED HIS COMMENTS SAYING "IN SPITE OF THE PROGRAM TO DATE, THERE ARE STILL MANY OBSTACLES TO BE OVERCOME BEFORE ARRIVING AT A DETERMINATION OF THE TEXT OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE LAW OF THE SEA. A GREAT CONCILIATORY

SPIRIT AND A STRONG DOSE OF GOOD WILL IS NEEDED ON THE PART OF ALL STATES PARTICIPATING IN THE CONFERENCE . . .  
END UNCLASSIFIED

BEGIN CONFIDENTIAL:

5. COMMENT: WE BELIEVE VALENCIA'S STATEMENT REPRESENTS AN EFFORT OF THE GOE TO TAKE CREDIT FOR HAVING MOVED THE MAJORITY OF THE NATIONS OF THE WORLD TOWARD THE CONCEPT OF COASTAL STATE CONTROL OF LIVING AND NON-LIVING RESOURCES, WHILE AT THE SAME TIME ADVISING THE ECUADOREAN PUBLIC THAT THE MAJORITY OF THE COUNTRIES DO NOT ACCEPT ECUADOR'S LONG-HELD 200 MILE TERRITORIAL SEA CONCEPT AND THAT IT IS UNLIKELY TO BE ADOPTED AT THE LOS CONFERENCE. END COMMENT  
BLOOMFIELD

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** TERRITORIAL SEA LIMIT, TWO HUNDRED MILE LIMIT, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 27 JUL 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** powellba  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
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**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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**Review Transfer Date:**  
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**TAGS:** PLOS, EC, UN  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006